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SOME PHILOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH.¹

IT is, perhaps, partly due to accident that American anthropologists meet to-day, for the first time, jointly with the American Philological Association and with the Archeological Institute of America. Nevertheless, I welcome our joint meeting as a significant fact, because it emphasizes the growing feeling of anthropologists that our science may profit from the methods developed by classical and oriental archeology, and by the well-established methods of philological and linguistic research. We hope that it may also express the growing feeling among philologists and archeologists of the importance of anthropological research for their own studies.

Our cooperation with your societies indicates a radical change in the attitude of students of anthropology. Up to the present time we have affiliated with societies representing the natural sciences and psychology. This is due to the development of modern anthropology under the stimulus of the theory of evolution, and to the important incentives that it has taken from the methods pursued by the natural sciences. It has been the endeavor of anthropologists to discover universal laws, like the laws of physics and of chemistry. This tendency has been somewhat modified by the influence of those historical methods in the biological sciences which endeavor to

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¹ Paper read at the joint meeting of the Anthropological Association, the Archeological Institute, and the Philological Association, at Ithaca, N. Y., December 28, 1905.